6. The Bank should not delay the process of selection and posting of Assistant Managers; and

7. The Bank should redeploy the staff to needy pockets speedily.

(c) The Bank has since been advised to take suitable action on various demands as per extent guidelines.

[English]

Excise Duty Evasion by Small Scale Industries

3594. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Tax haven under North Block's shadow" appearing in the Economic Times dated August, 1996;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein and the number of cases of excise duty evasion detected during the last three years in the NCR, Delhi and approximate amount of excise duty evaded thereby; and

(c) the steps being taken to ensure that manufacturers do not evade the excise duty so blatantly?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is a fact that manufacturers of copper ingot and wires located at Saboli Village, Delhi have been found to indulge in evasion of Central Excise duties. 75 metric tonnes of stainless steel ingots were also seized by Central Excise officials for clandestine clearance by a unit at Rajasthan Udyog Nagar, Delhi. Central Excise Duty evasion detected in NCR, Delhi during the last three years are as follows :—

Year	No. of cases	Amount involved (Rs. in lakhs)
1993-94	594	3457.27
1994-95	583	7333.46
1995-96	396	2224.86

(c) As seen from the news item itself the Anti-evasion activities such as gathering of intelligence, surprise checks of production, transit checks, surveillance, etc., have been intensified to check evasion of Central Excise duty.

Made in India Show

3595. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a four days 'Made in India' show was organised in Nairobi (Kenya) recently; and

(b) if so, the expenditure incurred on the show and the business generated during that period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) Yes, Sir. A four days' 'Made in India' Show was organised during 15—18th August, 1996 in Nairobi (Kenya) by the Confederation of Indian Industry.

(b) As reported by CII, the estimated expenditure on this show was Rs. 1,21,40,000/-. It has generated business enquiries worth US $ 35 million.

Investment in Public Undertakings

3596. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the total investment made in Central Public Sector Undertakings during the last three years; and

(b) the details thereof, Statewise?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) Total investment in terms of gross bloc in Central Public Sector Undertakings as on 31.3.1993, 31.3.1994 and 31.3.1995 was Rs. 174837.04 crores, Rs. 198901.86 crores and Rs. 227348.77 crores respectively. Statewise detail of gross block for three years' period is given in Table 1.27 of Chapter-I of Volume-I of P.E. Survey, 1993-94 and 1994-95 laid in the Parliament on 22.3.1995 and 19.7.1996 respectively.

Check-off Facility in Regional Rural Banks

3597. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have extended the benefits of check-off facilities, transit leave on transfer, promotion from scale I to scale II officer and creation of supervisory cell at Head Office, in the Regional Rural Banks;

(b) if so, the reasons as to why such facilities have not yet been extend in Pithoragarh Gramin Bank of Uttar Pradesh; and

(c) the remedial action taken or proposed to be taken in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) The Government have issued instructions governing the grant of check-off facility to the registered trade unions in the Regional Rural Banks (RRBs). Further, Government have issued instructions to

RRBs advising them of the procedure that may be followed by officers and other staff for seeking redressal of grievances in respect of complaints inter-alia, relating to disbursement of salaries, allowances, increments, leave, transfers and seniority. As regards joining time, the same is governed by the Staff Service Regulations of the RRBs. The promotion of officers from Scale-I to Scale-II is governed by the Appointment and Promotion Rules in vogue and by instructions issued by Government of India and National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD) from time to time.

(b) and (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent available.

Trade Relation with U.K.

3598. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps to improve trade relation with United Kingdom;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the new areas in which the Indo-U.K.trade is proposed to be expanded; and

(c) the time-limit for which both the countries have drawn up trade promotion plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is Government's constant endeavour to improve trade relations with all countries including United Kingdom. Some of the steps in this direction include participation in international trade fairs, intensified exchange of business delegations, supply of necessary information and extending all possible facilities to the commercial organisations, increased focus on thrust items and the promotional activities of Indo-British Partnership.

The new areas identified for expanding Indo-UK trade include fruits and vegetables/processed fruits and juices; electronic goods/computer software; processed minerals; sports goods; cosmetic/toileteries; yarn/fabrics/ manufactures of woollen; readymade garments of silk and wool.

(c) Improvement in bilateral trade relations is an ongoing process and hence no specific time limit have been set for drawing up trade promotion plan.

[Translation]

New Coal Mines in M.P.

3599. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA . Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the number of new coal mines in Madhya Pradesh where mining work has been started during the last three years and the location-wise details thereof;

(b) the progress made in the production of the coal so far in the new mines which have been sanctioned recently;

(c) the time by which the digging work is likely to be completed in each of these new mines and the quantum of coal to be mined in each of the new mine on completion of this work; and

(d) the cost to be incurred on each of these new mines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) to (d) Coal projects, each costing Rs. 20 crores and above, in the State of Madhya Pradesh under South Eastern Coalfields Limited where implementation was started during last three years alongwith details of ultimate capacity, sanctioned capital outlay, schedule of completion and coal production achieved during 1995-96 are as under :—

	Project	Distt.	Date of sanction	Capacity (qty)	Sanctioned cost (Rs. Crs.)	Schedule of completion	Production during 1995-96 (mt.)
1.	Somna UG	Shahdol	April, 93	0.55	44.65	March, 99	0.27
2.	Behraband UG	Shahdol	May, 94	0.60	48.39	March, 98	0.32